

Trail Etiquette

Adhering to the **TREAD LIGHTLY!** pledge enables you to protect future outdoor opportunities by learning to minimize environmental impact:

Travel and recreate with minimum impact. Staying on signed trails and routes reduces the impacts of outdoor recreation. Travel only on land or water areas open to your type of recreation. Be sure your size vehicle is compatible with road or trail conditions. Resist the urge to create new trails. Unauthorized trail construction is prohibited.

Respect the environment and the rights of others. Be courteous to others who also want to enjoy the lands you're using. Set an example of courtesy for all. Loud motors and noisy behavior will detract from a quiet outdoor setting. When driving, be especially cautious around horses, hikers and bikers. Pull off to the side of the road or trail, turn off your engine, if necessary, and let them pass.



Educate yourself, plan and prepare before you go. Obtain the right information, maps and equipment to make your trip safe. Know the local laws and regulations. As you travel, comply with all signage. Honor all gates, fences and barriers that are placed to protect our natural resources.



Allow for future use of the outdoors; leave it better than you found it. The future and quality of outdoor recreation depend on how we use it today. Stay on signed and mapped trails. Avoid sensitive areas at all times — especially sensitive areas susceptible to scarring (e.g., streambanks, meadows). Improper vehicle use can cause damage to soil and vegetation. Remember, once vehicle scars are established, other vehicles follow the same ruts and cause long-lasting damage. Rains cause further damage by washing deep gullies in tire ruts. Permanent and unsightly scars result.

Discover the rewards of responsible recreation. Enjoyment of the great outdoors provides opportunity to "get away from it all." Family values and traditions are built with the thrill and excitement of outdoor recreation. Do all you can to help protect the forest, lands, and waters that mean so much to you.

TREAD LIGHTLY!
ON PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LAND